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Vietnam Experience: Keeping the Story Alive



VIDEO: Interview with Ron Harris discussing the Vietnam Veteran Experience Weekend IMAGES AND CAPTIONS

March 6, 2019 (RALEIGH, N.C.) — Come join the North Carolina Museum of History to honorNational Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Friday, March 29, and Saturday, March 30, the museum will host an event with North Carolina Vietnam Veterans, Inc. to honor the veterans who served during the Vietnam War. The event will be held between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. daily.

The event will highlight the untold stories and honor the thousands of veterans who served during the Vietnam War. The museum and the NCVVI hope to give a voice to these stories so that their stories will be able to continue throughout history.

Attendees of the event will be able to meet veterans and hear about their time serving in Vietnam. The museum will be displaying one of the largest collections of war memorabilia (includinguniforms, weapons, and gear) in the East Coast! Other highlights include a Field Cross

memorial, a display of the state's POW and MIA heroes, and a 1/8-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall.

A film of the thought-provoking play, *Etchings in Stone*, by North Carolina Vietnam veteran Ron Harris, will be shown throughout the event. Harris' original play shared the words and unspoken thoughts of passing visitors from "inside" the Vietnam Veterans Memorial wall. The film features music, video clips, and photographs from the Vietnam era.

The playwright, Ron Harris, will be in attendance. As a war veteran himself, he will be able to share and tell amazing stories about his own time in Vietnam.

"Hopefully it's set up for people who are Vietnam Vets to be part of their welcome home," said Harris. "It's a long wait for their welcome home but this is something we have been doing for the last four years and hopefully it'll be meaningful for people who come to see the exhibits."

*Sponsored by North Carolina Vietnam Veterans, Inc. (NCVVI)

About the NC Museum of History

The N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

About Smithsonian Affiliations

In association with the Smithsonian since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History is part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. Smithsonian Affiliations is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at www.affiliations.si.edu.

About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the NC Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the NC Arts Council, State Preservation Office, and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.